GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:87
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2015
Pollution due to Suspended Particles
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a)the amount of suspended particles that cause air pollution during the last two years and the current year;
(b) whether a rising trend of such particles has been observed, if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to the Government to curb the same and control air pollution in major cities of the country including Delhi?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b).The National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) were revisited and notified in November, 2009. In line with international senerio, the earlier listed pollutant 'Suspended Particulate Matter' (SPM) has been withdrawn from the list of notified pollutants. Instead PM10 (particles having aerodynamic diameter less than or, equal to 10 micron) has been included in NAAQS-2009 apart from PM2.5. The monitoring of pollutant 'SPM' has been discontinued across the national including Delhi and other metro cities after NAAQS-2009. As far as, earlier data on SPM is concerned, a mixed trend was observed and it has exceeded the notified standards in a number of cities including Delhi.

(c)Various steps have been taken by the Central Government to control air pollution in major cities including Delhi which interalia include formulation of a Comprehensive Policy for Abatement of Pollution, supply of improved auto-fuel, tightening of vehicular and industrial emission norms, mandatory environmental clearance for specified industries, management of municipal, hazardous and bio-medical wastes, promotion of cleaner technologies, strengthening the network of air quality monitoring stations, assessment of pollution load, source apportionment studies, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities and critically polluted areas, public awareness, etc.

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